**What to do today**

*IMPORTANT! Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and with any weblinks or use of the Internet required.*

**1. It’s poem time!**

Read and enjoy the monster poems *There are Gribbles* by Paul Cookson and *Next Door* by David Harmer.

* What other things might the child in *Next Door* have seen or heard their neighbours doing that would have made the child think they were flies? *Crawling on the window, buzzing round a fizzy drink, getting stuck in a spider’s web, flying round a light bulb*.

**2. Poetry terminology**

Together, read the words and phrases on *What Do These Special Poetry Words Mean?* Look again at *It’s Behind You*. Can you find examples of some of these terms in the poem? Look at *Next Door* and do the same.

**3. Let’s get ready to write**

Re-read *There are Gribbles* and *Next Door*.

* Read through the categories on the *Poem Comparison Chart*
* Put a tick or a cross in each box.

4. **Gribbling**

‘Gribbling’ is one of the very unusual words in the poems.

* What do you think ‘gribbling’ might be? Is it a sound the monsters make? Is it a movement?
* On *A Gribble* *Gribbling*, draw a picture of a Gribble gribbling and write some sentences explaining what you think gribbling is.

**Now try this Fun-Time Extra**

* Solve the *Monster Words Anagrams* and then make your own for someone in the family to try and solve.

**There are Gribbles**

There are Gribbles in my attic

Gribbles on the stair

Gribbles in my wardrobe

Gribbles everywhere.



They gribble in the morning

They gribble late at night

They gribble when it’s dark

They gribble when it’s light.

Sometimes they gribble loudly

Sometimes they gribble quietly

Sometimes they gribble screaming

Sometimes they gribble nightly.

A Gribble’s never seen

A Gribble’s always heard

A Gribble is a Gribble

Is a Gribble is a word.

A Gribble’s what they are

A Gribble’s what they do

A Gribble gribbles out

Before it gribbles you!

Paul Cookson

**It’s Behind You! Monster Poems**

by Paul Cookson and David Harmer

**Next Door**

My mum says



The woman next door

Isn’t a fly.

A huge bluebottle

Rubbing six thin legs together

Crawling upside down on the ceiling

Sticking her long nose into the jam.

My mum says

That buzzing and whirring and humming

We hear each day through the wall

Is only a Hoover.

If that’s true, why

Does her husband scuttle

Over the floor on eight hairy legs

And build thick webs

In the dark cupboard under the stairs?

And why does Stan

Her eldest son

Buy huge cans of Deadly Flykill?

When I next see her

Zooming over the compost and dustbins

I’ll have to ask her

Just what’s SWAT!

*David Harmer*

**It’s Behind You! Monster Poems**

by Paul Cookson and David Harmer

**What do these special poetry words mean?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| verses | The separate sections or ‘chunks’ that a poem’s lines are broken up into. Verses are a bit like paragraphs in normal writing. Verses have a gap between them. |
| rhyming words | Lots of poems have rhyming words in them. Rhyming words are words that end in the same sound. *See*, *be* and *tea* rhyme because they all end with the same sound. *Cup*, *lip* and *drink* do not so we say they do not rhyme. |
| rhythm | We say a poem has rhythm when there is a sing-song quality to the way the way the poem sounds when you read it out loud. It makes the poem sound a bit like a chant or song. |
| repetition | Repetition is when a word or a group of words get used again and again in a poem. |
| free verse | When a poem does not contain rhyming words, does not have a very strong rhythm and does not have lots of repetition it is called free verse. Free verse sounds more like normal speaking. |

**Poem Comparison Chart**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | ***Next Door*** | ***There are Gribbles*** |
| Is about monsters |  |  |
| Is humorous |  |  |
| Is scary |  |  |
| Is split up into verses |  |  |
| Is an example of free verse |  |  |
| Contains rhyming words |  |  |
| Has a strong rhythm |  |  |
| Has repetition in it |  |  |
| Contains very unusual or made-up words |  |  |

**A Gribble Gribbling**

|  |
| --- |
|  |



**Monster Word Anagrams**

We say that *swlac* is an **anagram** of *claws* because *swlac* has all the letters that make claws but the letters have been jumbled up and put in the wrong order.

Can you work out what these monster body part word anagrams mean?

ruf \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

httee \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

seey \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

dhae \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

sone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ares \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Make up some monster anagrams of your own to show someone at home. Can they work out what the word really is?

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